

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner	Series and Series Number: MATERIALS RELEASE NO. 1305
DIRECTORS, HOUSING DIVISION DIRECTORS, MULTIFAMILY DIVISION DIRECTORS, SINGLE FAMILY DIVISION	ISSUE DATE October 23, 2000
	REVIEW DATE October 23, 2003
SUBJECT: 1. Product: Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System	
2. Name and Address of Manufacturer Armstrong World Industries, Inc. P. O. Box 3001 Lancaster, PA 17604	

Data on the nonstandard product described herein have been reviewed by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and determination has been made that it is considered suitable from a technical standpoint for the use indicated herein. This Release does not purport to establish a comparative quality or value rating for this product as compared to standard products normally used in the same manner.

This Materials Release cannot be used as an indication of endorsement or approval by HUD of the described product, and any statement or representation, however made, indicating such approval or endorsement by HUD is unauthorized. See Code 18, U.S.C. 709.

Any reproduction of this Release must be in its entirety.

USE: Flooring System

DESCRIPTION:

Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System consists of tongue and groove planks, adhesively attached to each other over a foamed polyethylene underlayment. The laminated flooring system components are a 0.006 inch thick top layer of melamine laminate with aluminum oxide, a middle 0.272 inch thick layer of urea-formaldehyde bonded high-density fiberboard and a bottom layer of 0.006 inch thick melamine laminate. Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System is available in 7 ½ inch wide x 50 5/8 inch long x 5/16 inch thick planks.

REQUIREMENTS:

Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System shall be in compliance with Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1
Component Requirements for Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System

Component	Value	Test Method
Top Wear Layer	Compliance with surface properties	NEMA LD-3
Middle Core Layer	Compliance	ANSI A208.2
Bottom Balance Layer	Compliance with backing properties	NEMA LD-3

Table 2
System Requirements for Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System

System	Value	Test Method
Flammability: Flooring Radiant Panel	0.45 watts/cm ² or greater	ASTM E 648
Light Resistance	No fading or color change	AATCC 16E
Slip Resistance	COF = 0.50 0 or greater	ASTM D 2047

INSTALLATION:

1. Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System shall be installed in strict accordance with Armstrong World Industries, Inc.'s *Laminate Flooring Installation Instructions*, #IPD-101-998J, dated September 9, 1998.
 2. The structural floor used under the Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System shall support the required design live load with a deflection limit of L/360.
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3. Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System shall be installed with a 1/4 inch space around the perimeter of the room and all fixed vertical surfaces for expansion.
 4. Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System shall be installed over Armstrong 2 in 1 Foam Underlayment with the logo side up, except that no underlayment is to be used on treads or risers for stair applications.
 5. Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System is not recommended to be installed over carpeted areas or in areas of high humidity. However, the Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System may be installed over 1/4 inch thick fully adhered carpet on a wood subfloor. For all other applications, carpeting shall be removed before installation.
 6. The slope of the supporting floor shall not exceed 1 inch vertical in 6 feet horizontal.
 7. Variations in the supporting floor flatness shall not exceed 1/4 inch vertical in 10 feet horizontal.
 8. Concrete supporting floors shall be fully cured and allowed to dry for 60 days after the curing process before installing the Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System.
 9. If moisture is present within a concrete supporting floor, a calcium chloride test shall be made before installation of the Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System.
 10. On installations over ceramic and resilient tile on concrete supporting floors at or below grade, butt the Armstrong 2 in 1 Foam Underlayment at the edges and tape all seams with 2 inch wide polyethylene tape.
 11. Wood supporting floors shall be suspended with a minimum of 18 inches of well-ventilated crawl space. Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System shall be installed at an angle of 90 degrees to a wood plank supporting floor.
 12. Wall base molding and trim shall not be fastened to the Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System.
 13. For bathroom installations of the Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System, all perimeter expansion zones shall be completely filled with 100 percent silicone caulk.
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WARRANTY:

Armstrong World Industries, Inc., warrants the Inhabit™/Armstrong Laminate Flooring System against faulty performance resulting from faulty materials or workmanship in the manufacturing process for a period of 10 years from the date of installation, when installed by the direct purchaser and 15 years from the date of installation when installed professionally. Should any defect occur, Armstrong World Industries, Inc., shall make a pro rata allowance for replacement.

The manufacturer's warranty does not, in any way, relieve the builder of responsibility under the terms of the Builder's Warranty required by the National Housing Act or under any provisions applicable to any other housing program. A copy of the manufacturer's warranty shall be furnished by the builder to the owner upon completion of the installation.

MANUFACTURER'S RESPONSIBILITIES:

Issuance of this Materials Release (MR) commits the manufacturer to fulfill as a minimum, the following:

1. Produce, label and certify the material, product or system in strict accordance with the terms of this MR.
2. Provide necessary corrective action in a timely manner for all cases of justified complaint, poor performance or failure reported by HUD.
3. When requested, provide the Office of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, Manufactured Housing and Standards Division, HUD Headquarters, with a representative list of properties in which the material, product or system has been used, including complete addresses or descriptions of locations and dates of installation.
4. Inform HUD, in advance, of changes in production facilities, methods, design of the product, company name, ownership or mailing address.

EVALUATION:

This MR shall be valid for a period of three years from the date of initial issuance or most recent renewal or revision, whichever is later. The holder of this MR shall apply for renewal or revision 90 days prior to the Review Date printed on this MR. Submittals for renewal or revision, and appropriate User Fee shall be sent to:

U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
Technical Suitability of Products Fees
P. O. Box 954199
St. Louis, MO 63195-4199

The holder of this MR may apply for revision at any time prior to the Review Date. Minor revisions may be in the form of a supplement to this MR.

If the Department determines that a proposed renewal or supplement constitutes a revision, the appropriate User Fee for a revision will be need to be submitted in accordance with in accordance with Code of Federal Regulations 24 CFR 200.934, "User Fee System for the Technical Suitability of Products Program," and current User Fee Schedule.

CANCELLATION:

Failure to apply for a renewal or revision shall constitute a basis for cancellation of the MR. HUD will notify the manufacturer that the MR may be canceled when:

1. conditions under which the document was issued have changed so as to affect production of, or to compromise the integrity of the accepted material, product, or system;
2. the manufacturer has changed its organizational form without notifying HUD; or,
3. manufacturer has not complied with responsibilities it assumed as a condition of HUD's acceptance.

However, before cancellation, HUD will give the manufacturer a written notice, of the specific reasons for cancellation, and the opportunity to present views on why the MR should not be canceled. No refund of fees will be made on a canceled document.

This Materials Release is issued solely for the captioned firm, and is not transferable to any person or successor entity.
